HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS, TO PLAN AND ESTABLISH A MEMORIAL ON THE STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR, OPERATION DESERT STORM, OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, OPERATION NEW DAWN, AND OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

WHEREAS, the freedom and security that United States citizens enjoy today are direct results of the sacrifices and continued vigilance of the United States armed forces over the course of the nation's history; and

WHEREAS, members of the United States armed forces engaged in the Persian Gulf War, from August 2, 1990, to February 28, 1991, which culminated in the liberation of Kuwait from Iraq; and

WHEREAS, the United States air-and-land conflict, known as Operation Desert Storm, began on January 17, 1991, and lasted through April 11, 1991; and

WHEREAS, Operation Iraqi Freedom, later named Operation New Dawn, was a military campaign led by United States troops that began on March 20, 2003, and lasted through August 31, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Operation Enduring Freedom, also known as the War in Afghanistan, is an ongoing war effort that began on October 7, 2001; and

WHEREAS, public memorials are an important form of recognition for veterans and military personnel who contributed to these important missions; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii dedicated the Korean and Vietnam Memorial on the grounds of the State Capitol on July 24, 1994; and

 WHEREAS, it is both fitting and necessary for the State to give tangible and visible recognition to the sacrifices and contributions of veterans from Hawaii who served in the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation New Dawn; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Office of Veterans Services, with the assistance of the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Department of Defense, is requested to develop a plan to establish a memorial honoring the veterans of the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation New Dawn on the grounds of the State Capitol near the Korean and Vietnam War Memorial; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Veterans Services, with the assistance of the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Department of Defense is requested to hold a public hearing to receive comments or input about the proposed memorial from interested organizations and residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Veterans Services, with the assistance of the Department of Accounting and General Services and Department of Defense, is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the legislature no later than January 1, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Office of Veterans Services, Director of Accounting and General Services, and the Adjutant General.

OFFERED BY:

HCR HMS 2013-2401

H.C.R. NO. 115

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